

Declaration of Intent Between The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of the State of Israel and the Government of the State of California for Cooperation on Alternative Energy and Environmental Technology

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND LABOR OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RECOGNIZE THAT:

- I. The State of Israel and the State of California share close ties and are global leaders in the alternative energy and environmental technology sectors.
- II. The alternative energy and environmental technology-based industry sectors are of key importance for the economic development, security needs, and the environmental welfare of the State of Israel, the State of California, and the world.
- III. The State of Israel and the State of California face environmental challenges related to alternative energy and water technologies, and share similar capacities for innovation and development.
- IV. The current substantial cooperation and synergy between Israel and California in alternative energy and environmental technology – in venture capital investment, business innovation, research and development, and commercial application – are only at their initial stages of potential.
- V. Israel - California collaborative partnerships, joint research and development, and knowledge transfer between academia and industry, will generate increased alternative energy and environmental technology investment and will create greater sector growth and quality jobs in Israel and California.

THEREFORE, IT IS DECLARED AS FOLLOWS:

The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of the State of Israel and the State of California hereby establish a Declaration of Intent to foster economic cooperation, facilitate joint industrial research and development, and enhance business relationships in the alternative energy and environmental technology sectors. To achieve these aims:

1. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of the State of Israel and the State of California will endeavor to share best practices on alternative energy and environmental technology development and commercialization.
2. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of the State of Israel and the State of California will endeavor to facilitate collaborations between Israeli and Californian entrepreneurs and researchers subject to their applicable internal laws, regulations, rules and procedures, in order to provide the knowledge and management base required in order to maintain thriving environmental technology and alternative energy sectors.
3. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of the State of Israel and the State of California are interested in establishing bilateral sector-specific working groups whose functions may include the following :
 - (a) Advancing an agreement between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the State of California on bilateral cooperation in private sector industrial research and development that will create a framework for future cooperation between industrial entities from Israel and California in the field of industrial research and development, in particular in alternative energy and environmental technologies.
 - (b) Developing and maintaining strong partnerships within the environmental and alternative energy industry sectors in both California and Israel
 - (c) Setting qualitative and quantitative targets to maximize total economic development on a bilateral basis.
4. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor of the State of Israel and the State of California, both, together with their relevant government bodies, subject to their applicable internal laws, regulations, rules and procedures, will strive to:

- (a) Improve strategic coordination between Israel and California alternative energy development and environmental technology.
 - (b) Help prioritize public investments in these sectors.
 - (c) Help to direct collaboration between industry, and regional economic development entities in these sectors for the aim of increasing global market and employment opportunities.
 - (d) Create a better environment for sustained job and industry growth for the citizens of both California and Israel by deepening cooperation in these sectors.
5. In this document, "environmental technology" refers to technology aimed at conserving and replenishing the natural environment and its resources. These categories include, but are not limited to: energy efficiency, renewable technology, water, air quality and the like. "Alternative energy" refers to all forms of energy generated by innovative clean technology, including but not limited to: solar, wind, wave, biomass and geothermal.
6. This Declaration of Intent reflects the mutual intent of the parties. It is not legally enforceable in any court of law or before any tribunal of any sort.

Signed on day of at , Israel.

For the State of California

For the Ministry of Industry
Trade and Labor of the State of Israel

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California

Binyamin Ben Eliezer
Minister of Industry, Trade, and Labor

